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FILLERS FROM THE U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

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The U.S. Department of Labor operates through 10 regional offices located in major cities across the country. If you want a local angle on a news or feature story provided through this service--or have a direct news inquiry--you may contact one of the offices listed below. This listing includes the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Regional Directors for Public Affairs and the States in their regions:

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617-565-2072

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201 Varick St.
Room 605 A
New York, NY 10014
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404-347-4495

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230 S. Dearborn St.
Chicago, IL 60604
312-353-6976

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555 Griffin St.
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Federal Office Bldg.
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Kansas City, MO 64106
816-374-5481

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Denver, CO 80294
303-844-4235

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Suite 1035
71 Stevenson St.
San Francisco, CA 94105
414-744-6673

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Region X.....Mike Shimizu
Room 805
1111 Third Ave. Bldg
Seattle, WA 98101
206-442-7620

Alaska
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Week of June 18, 1990

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS RELEASES 1989 DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FOR STATES AND LARGE METROPOLITAN AREAS

WASHINGTON -- Wide differences continue to exist among states in the proportion of women in the labor force, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reports. Alaska had a labor force participation rate for women of 64.8 percent-- followed closely by the District of Columbia with 64.2 percent-- more than 20 points higher than West Virginia's 42.9 percent.

The Bureau's new databook, "Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1989," also reports these differences among states:

--The unemployment rate for teenagers (16-19 years) ranged from just below 10 percent in Indiana and Hawaii to 23 percent in Arkansas and 25 percent in Mississippi.

--The average workweek for employed men varied from a high of 46.6 hours in South Dakota to a low of 41.4 hours in Rhode Island. For women, the workweek ranged from 38.8 hours in the District of Columbia to 34.0 hours in Maine and Utah.

--The proportion of the total number of unemployed who had lost their last jobs ranged from a high of about 55 percent in New Jersey to a low of 30 percent in Virginia, while the proportion who quit their last jobs varied from almost 30 percent in Connecticut and Hawaii to around 10 percent in Colorado, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

The databook presents regional, state, and metropolitan area estimates of the civilian labor force, employment, and unemployment by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, marital status, full- and part-time status, and occupation and industry. All estimates are annual averages derived from the Current Population Survey, a sample survey of some 60,000 households conducted monthly for BLS by the Bureau of the Census.

Geographic profile reports are published annually by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. "Geographic Profile of Employment and Unemployment, 1989," BLS Bulletin 2361 (Stock No. 029-001-03052-5) is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, for $10.00. Make checks payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

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Week of June 18, 1990

INNOVATIVE WORK-BASED LEARNING PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole and the American Bankers Association (ABA) have announced the formation of Performance 2000, an innovative work-based learning program of the ABA's American Institute of Banking. The program is co-sponsored by the National Alliance of Business (NAB) and the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

Performance 2000 is designed to address the problem of basic skills deficiencies which is affecting banking and many other U.S. industries. The program, which trains newly hired tellers, is divided into three phases: instruction in basic skills and workplace literacy; technical training in core job functions; and structured on-the-job learning.

The third phase of the program features the use of performance coaches, usually head tellers, to provide participants with structured learning exercises which they can build into their everyday experiences on the job. Participants in this phase will be compared with participants in traditional training, and ABA and the Department of Labor will then evaluate how program features can be incorporated into future training.

The training under Performance 2000 will begin this fall, and will involve seven operations: American Institute of Banking chapters in Buffalo, Denver, Kansas City, and San Antonio; First American Bank, with locations in Washington, D.C. and Fairfax, Va.; National State Bank, Union, N.J.; and Emigrant Savings Bank, New York City.

Performance 2000 is the first of four private sector programs being supported under a $750,000 grant which the Employment and

Training Administration's Office of Work-Based Learning (OWBL) has awarded to the National Alliance of Business. NAB is a nonprofit organization through which business leaders build partnerships with government, labor and education to strengthen the American workforce.

This grant is one of three research and demonstration grants awarded by OWBL as outgrowths of Apprenticeship 2000, a two-year study of how apprenticeship and other forms of structured work-based learning can help American workers increase their skills.

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WEEK OF JUNE 18, 1990

Fillers from the U.S. Labor Department

The first pension was established by the Plymouth colony for disabled soldiers in 1636, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a U.S. Labor Department publication.

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The first federal government pension was established to assist wounded and disabled Revolutionary soldiers in 1776, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a U.S. Labor Department publication.

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The first private pension plan offered by a labor organization was set up in 1860 by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, a union of American and Canadian workers, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a U.S. Labor Department publication.

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